

# WASHINGTON STATE B A R A S S O C I A T I O N

## SECTION ANNUAL REPORT – 2019

*Deadline: Friday, December 6, 2019*

*Email Annual Report to: [sections@wsba.org](mailto:sections@wsba.org)*

<b>Name of the Section:</b>	<i>Cannabis Law Section</i>	
<b>Chair:</b>	<i>Joshua Ashby</i>	
<b>Section Information:</b>  <i>*To be completed by WSBA*</i>	Membership Size: <i>(As of December 31, 2019)</i>	
	Staff Lead:	
	BOG Liaison:	
	FY19 revenue (\$): <i>As of September 30, 2019</i>	
	FY19 direct expenses (\$): <i>(As of September 30, 2019; does not include the Per-Member-Charge)</i>	
<b>Purpose:</b>	To provide networking and education opportunities to attorneys who practice in, or are interested in, cannabis law	
<b>2019 Accomplishments and Work in Progress:</b>	We are spending our first few years focusing exclusively on becoming a resource for our members. We held a well-attended mini CLE on hemp law in 2019. We are also building out our repository of resources to better serve our members. We have brought on a young lawyer liaison and formed subject matter specific committees to help practitioners keep up to date with the rapid pace of change. We also launched a quarterly newsletter for section members that provided four issues last year. Additionally, we now have a “members only” website, as well as a resource section that will eventually be built into a document repository. We are also working with the WSBA on a potential Deskbook and are currently establishing the table of contents.	

<p><b>Please quantify your section's current member benefits:</b></p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;</li> <li>• 4 mini-CLEs produced</li> </ul>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Member Benefit</b>
		Scholarships, donations, grants awarded
		Law school outreach events/benefits hosted
		Legislative bills reviewed/drafted
	<b>4</b>	Newsletters produced
	<b>1</b>	Mini-CLEs produced
		Co-sponsored half/day to multi-day CLEs with WSBA
		Receptions/forums hosted
		Awards given
		New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
		Other (please describe):
<p><b>2020 Goals &amp; Priorities (Top 5)</b></p>	<b>1</b>	<b>Develop and host multiple mini CLEs</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>Increase membership through outreach</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>Encourage membership engagement via listserv</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>Develop deskbook</b>
	<b>5</b>	<b>Build out document repository</b>
<p><b>Please report how this section is addressing diversity:</b></p> <p>(Are you using any of the tools provided by WSBA and if so, how? Have you sought out training or consultation from the Diversity Specialist? How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in your decision-making? What have you done to promote a culture of inclusion within the board or committee? What has your section done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive, and eventually lead the profession?)</p> <p>We are in the process of establishing a diversity and outreach committee that will focus on increasing diversity in the membership through young lawyers/students, regional diversity, increasing racial and LGBTQ membership and positions on the soon to be established committees. Once established, we will seek diversity training from the WSBA and seek out a potential mentorship partnership to increase diversity and inclusion.</p>		

**Please report how this section is addressing professionalism:**

(Does the section’s work promote respect and civility within the legal community? Does it seek to improve relationships between and among lawyers, judges, staff and clients? Does it raise awareness about the causes and/or consequences of unprofessional behavior?)

The section is conscientious about developing an understanding among its members that the practice of cannabis law, being largely agency regulated, requires it members to work in conjunction with these agencies for the benefit of its clients, and that the legal profession as a whole will benefit from increased positive relations with the staff of these agencies. We will also seek to engage more thoroughly with ALJ and administrative attorneys who represent these agencies, through networking events that promote engaging and useful conversations about both the section and the profession, and by making such spaces available on the board during the next elections for agency representative attorneys.

**Please report how this section is integrating new and young lawyers into its work:**

(How have you brought new and young lawyers into your decision making process? Has the section supported new and young lawyers by (for example) helping to find and prepare them for employment, assisting with debt management, building community, and providing leadership opportunities?)

We recently onboarded a young lawyer liaison who is assisting the executive committee with outreach to young lawyers, and can provide insight on the matters most important to young lawyers, whether those are finding work, education to prepare for employment, etc. We have discussed the possibility of having a job board on our section page specific to the legal cannabis industry, which may help young lawyers job search, and expect that our liaison will provide many suggestions to our board about the best way to assist young lawyers.

**Please describe your Executive Committee's relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.**

*For example:*

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services provided to Section Executive Committee*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison*
- *Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support services to sections.*

So far, we have had tremendous support from the WSBA, and specifically our staff liaison, as we attempt to bring this fledgling section to a fully functioning section that is representative of the WSBA.

**Note:** Annual Reports will be provided to the WSBA Executive Director, Board of Governors and posted on your section's webpage. We encourage you to share the Annual Report with your BOG liaison and section membership.

Reports are scheduled to be included in the January 2020 BOG Meeting Materials.

**Return by December 6, 2019 to [sections@wsba.org](mailto:sections@wsba.org)**